

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 625

By West

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Ben J. Birdwell on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ben J. Birdwell is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for forty-five years as a medical doctor; having worked at Summit Medical Associates in Hermitage since 1994, Dr. Birdwell will be taking a much deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, a native of Jackson County, Dr. Birdwell received a bachelor's degree from Tennessee Technological University and a Doctorate of Medicine from the University of Tennessee Center For The Health Sciences; he received his Post Doctoral Training at St. Thomas Hospital before going into private practice in 1966; and

WHEREAS, he nobly served his country from 1966 to 1968 as a proud member of the United States Medical Corps, serving in Qui Nhom, South Vietnam; for his meritorious service, Dr. Birdwell was awarded the Bronze Star; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Birdwell is an active and important part of his community and his profession, participating in numerous worthy organizations, including the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, the Tennessee Society of Internal Medicine, the American Society of Internal Medicine/American College of Physicians, the Nashville Academy of Medicine, the American Medical Association, and the Tennessee Medical Association, for which he has served as a member of the House of Delegates since 1996; and

WHEREAS, he has held numerous hospital and medical appointments, serving as Chief of the Department of Medicine and as a member and chairman of the Board of Trustees at Summit Medical Center; he also dedicated his time to serving Centennial Hospital, Baptist

Hospital, St. Thomas Hospital, and the Columbia Healthcare Network, which he served as chairman; and

WHEREAS, a respected leader in his field, Dr. Birdwell's research has been published; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ben J. Birdwell exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, he is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, Peggy Brown, and their four children and six grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Dr. Birdwell has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Dr. Ben J. Birdwell our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, recognize and honor his laudable service to the people of Tennessee as a public servant of the highest order, and wish him every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.